

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 1 1. A method for facilitating vehicle ingress and egress with a vehicle including at
2 least one row of back seats coupled to the vehicle in a seat track and having a vehicle
3 stadium/slide seat system, with each back seat having a seat cushion and seat back, the
4 method comprising the steps of:
5 manipulating a flip-forward mechanism associated with at least one of the
6 back seats;
7 rotating the seat cushion; and
8 moving the back seat in the seat track to a pre-selected position.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the pre-selected position is one of an easy-
2 entry position and a design position.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, including the step of locking the back seat in the pre-
2 selected position.
- 1 4. The method for facilitating stowing of the back seats of a vehicle having at
2 least one row of back seats coupled to the vehicle in a seat track ,with each back seat having a
3 seat cushion and seat back, the method comprising the steps of:
4 manipulating a stow lever associated with at least one of the back seats; and
5 rotating the seat back to a position adjacent to the seat cushion.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, including the step of rotating the seat back to a design
2 position.
- 1 6. The method of claim 4, including the step of moving the seat along the seat
2 track to a pre-selected position.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, including the step of locking the seat in the pre-
2 selected position.

1 8. A vehicle stadium/slide seat system mounted on one side of a vehicle seat,
2 with the vehicle seat coupled to a vehicle in a seat track and with the vehicle seat having a
3 seat cushion and a seat back, the vehicle stadium/slide seat system comprising:

4 a flip-forward mechanism comprising:

5 a linkage assembly coupled to the seat track;

6 a seat bracket coupled to the linkage assemble and the seat
7 cushion;

8 and

9 an easy-entry lever coupled to the linkage assembly and
10 configured to release a track engagement device coupled to the
11 linkage assembly, wherein the vehicle seat can be moved to one
12 of a design position and an easy-entry position;

13 and

14 a stow lever coupled to the seat back and configured to lock and
15 release the seat back and allow the seat back to rotate to one of a
16 design position and a stowed position.

1 9. The vehicle stadium/slide seat system of claim 8, wherein the vehicle
2 stadium/slide seat system is configured to operate from either side of the vehicle seat.

1 10. The vehicle stadium/slide seat system of claim 8, including a locking device to
2 lock the seat in a position along the seat track.